

introducing a hardenable material or material mix into the opening, and  
hardening the hardenable material or material mix therein to form at least a part of the  
marker element [characterised in that to form at least a part of the marker element (6; 6'; 6"; 25; 25';  
26; 28) a hardenable material or material mix is introduced into the opening and hardened therein.

2. (amended) The [A] method of claim 1, wherein the material or material mix is [as set forth  
in claim 1 characterised in that to form at least a part of the marker element (6; 6'; 6"; 25; 25') a  
hardenable,] flowable or pourable [material or material mix is introduced into the opening and is  
hardened therein].

3. (amended) The [A] method of claim 2, wherein [as set forth in claim 2 characterised in that]  
the [flowable or pourable] material or material mix is a sinterable granular material or powder  
[which is hardened in the opening by sintering].

4. (amended) The [A] method of claim 2, wherein the [as set forth in claim 2 or claim 3  
characterised in that the flowable or pourable] material or material mix is joined and in particular  
welded to the material of the main body [(2; 2'; 2"; 22; 22')] during the hardening step [process].

5. (amended) The [A] method of claim 1, wherein [as set forth in one of the preceding claims  
characterised in that] the hardening step [process] includes an endothermic step and at least a part of  
the process energy in the endothermic step is introduced locally in the region of the opening.

6. (amended) The [A] method of claim 5, wherein [as set forth in claim 5 characterised in that]  
at least a part of the process energy in the endothermic step is introduced by targeted irradiation in  
the region of the opening, in particular with laser radiation.

7. (amended) The [A] method of claim 5, wherein [as set forth in claim 5 or claim 6  
characterised in that] at least a part of the process energy in the endothermic step is introduced by  
ultrasound.

8. (amended) The [A] method of claim 1, wherein [as set forth in one of the preceding claims characterised in that] the hardening step [process] includes an endothermic step and at least a part of the process energy in the endothermic step is introduced electrically by producing a flow of current through the [flowable or pourable] material or material mix arranged in the region of the opening [(3; 3'; 3"; 21; 21')].

9. (amended) The [A] method of claim 1, wherein both the introducing step and the hardening step are [as set forth in claim 1 characterised in that introduction and hardening of the material or material mix is] effected by galvanic deposit.

10. (amended) The [A] method of claim 1, wherein the [as set forth in claim 1 characterised in that a cold-setting] material or material mix is cold-setting [, in particular amalgam, is used].

11. (amended) An implant [, in particular a stent,] for implantation in a [the] human or an animal body comprising a main body [(2; 2'; 2"; 2'''; 22; 22')], at least one opening [(3; 3'; 3"; 3'''; 21; 21')] in said main body [(2; 2'; 2"; 2'''; 22; 22')] and a marker element [(6; 6'; 6"; 25; 25'; 26; 28)] arranged in said opening [(3; 3"; 3'''; 21; 21')], characterised in that the marker element [(6; 6'; 6"; 25; 25'; 26; 28) at least partially] comprises a hardenable material or material mix which is introduced into the opening [(3; 3"; 3'''; 21; 21')] and hardened therein.

12. (amended) The [An] implant of claim 11, wherein [as set forth in claim 11 characterised in that] the marker element [(6; 6'; 6"; 25; 25'; 26; 28) at least partially] comprises a flowable or pourable material or material mix which is introduced into the opening [(3; 3'; 3"; 21; 21')] and hardened therein [, or a material or material mix which is introduced into the opening by galvanic deposit and hardened there].

13. (amended) The [An] implant of claim 12, wherein [as set forth in claim 12 characterised in that the flowable or pourable] material or material mix is sinterable and is hardened in the opening [(3; 3'; 3"; 21; 21')] by sintering.

14. (amended) The [An] implant of claim 11, wherein [as set forth in one of claims 11 through 13 characterised in that] the marker element [(6; 6'; 6"; 25; 25')] is joined and in particular welded to the material of the main body [(2; 2'; 2"; 22; 22')] by the hardening process.

15. (amended) The [An] implant of claim 11, wherein [as set forth in one of claims 11 through 14 characterised in that] the opening [(3; 3'; 3"; 21; 21')] and/or the marker element [(6; 6'; 6"; 25; 25')] and/or the arrangement thereof with respect to the main body [(2; 2'; 2"; 22; 22')] are adapted to] identify at least one property of the implant.

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Please enter the following new claims:

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16. (new) The method of claim 3, wherein the material or material mix is joined and in particular welded to the material of the main body during the hardening step.

17. (new) The method of claim 2, wherein the hardening step includes an endothermic step and at least a part of the process energy in the endothermic step is introduced locally in the region of the opening.

18. (new) The method of claim 3, wherein the hardening step includes an endothermic step and at least a part of the process energy in the endothermic step is introduced locally in the region of the opening.

19. (new) The method of claim 4, wherein the hardening step includes an endothermic step and at least a part of the process energy in the endothermic step is introduced locally in the region of the opening.

20. (new) The method of claim 16, wherein the hardening step includes an endothermic step and at least a part of the process energy in the endothermic step is introduced locally in the region of the opening.

21. (new) The method of claim 17, wherein at least a part of the process energy in the endothermic step is introduced by targeted irradiation in the region of the opening, in particular with laser radiation.

22. (new) The method of claim 18, wherein at least a part of the process energy in the endothermic step is introduced by targeted irradiation in the region of the opening, in particular with laser radiation.

23. (new) The method of claim 19, wherein at least a part of the process energy in the endothermic step is introduced by targeted irradiation in the region of the opening, in particular with laser radiation.

24. (new) The method of claim 20, wherein at least a part of the process energy in the endothermic step is introduced by targeted irradiation in the region of the opening, in particular with laser radiation.

25. (new) The method of claim 17, wherein at least a part of the process energy in the endothermic step is introduced by ultrasound.

26. (new) The method of claim 18, wherein at least a part of the process energy in the endothermic step is introduced by ultrasound.

27. (new) The method of claim 19, wherein at least a part of the process energy in the endothermic step is introduced by ultrasound.

28. (new) The method of claim 20, wherein at least a part of the process energy in the endothermic step is introduced by ultrasound.

29. (new) The method of claim 10, wherein the material or material mix is amalgam.

30. (new) The implant of claim 11, wherein the marker element comprises a material or material mix which is introduced into the opening by galvanic deposit and hardened there.

31. (new) The implant of claim 30, wherein the material or material mix is sinterable and is hardened in the opening by sintering.

32. (new) The implant of claim 12, wherein the marker element is joined and in particular welded to the material of the main body by the hardening process.

33. (new) The implant of claim 13, wherein the marker element is joined and in particular welded to the material of the main body by the hardening process.

34. (new) The implant of claim 12, wherein the opening and/or the marker element and/or the arrangement thereof with respect to the main body identify at least one property of the implant.

35. (new) The implant of claim 13, wherein the opening and/or the marker element and/or the arrangement thereof with respect to the main body identify at least one property of the implant.

36. (new) The implant of claim 14, wherein the opening and/or the marker element and/or the arrangement thereof with respect to the main body identify at least one property of the implant.

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